

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A heat-developable image recording material comprising:

a support;

a photosensitive silver halide;

a reducing agent for a silver ion;

a binder; and

a non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain,

wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has:

- 1) substantially no silver stearate;
- 2) a length/width ratio of 1 to 9;
- 3) an aspect ratio of 1.1 to 30;
- 4) an equivalent-sphere diameter of 0.05 to 1 μm ;
- 5) a content of silver behenate that is 97 to 100 mol% per mol of the non-photosensitive organic silver salt; and
- 6) a content of silver arachidate that is 3 mol% or less per mol of the non-photosensitive organic silver salt.

2-5. (Cancelled).

6. (Original) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain is prepared at 60°C or less.

7. (Original) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain is prepared by adding an aqueous silver nitrate solution and a solution or suspension of an organic acid alkali metal salt to a closed mixing vessel.

8. (Original) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain is desalted by an ultrafiltration.

9. (Original) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, which further comprises an image-forming layer containing the photosensitive silver halide and the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain.

10. (Original) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 9, wherein the image-forming layer further contains the reducing agent for a silver ion and the binder.

11. (Original) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 9, which further comprises a second image-forming layer containing the reducing agent for a silver ion and the binder.

12-13. (Cancelled).

14. (New) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has a length/width ratio of 1 to 6.

15. (New) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has a length/width ratio of 1 to 3.

16. (New) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has an aspect ratio of 1.1 to 15.

17. (New) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has an equivalent-sphere diameter of 0.1 to 1 μm .